Show me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. (Psalm 25:4-5)

Ways. Paths. Truth.

Every person has an attribute peculiar to him alone that is called his "ways." His ways usually determine, more than anything else, whether he will be admired or despised, whether he will be loved or hated, sought after or shunned. His ways constitute the major portion of his personality.

The only perfect person in existence is God. His ways therefore ought be sought and emulated as far as it is possible for a mortal to do. The psalmist requests to be shown the Lord's ways. This is more than just passing information about them or causing them to be exposed to view. We need to be brought to see them, and to fully comprehend them that we may order our ways like His.

Paths are those courses that are repeatedly chosen. They are regularly used roads, trails that lead somewhere definitely and can be counted on to bring one to the proper destination. There are certain paths that the Lord can always be counted on to follow. The Lord does have hidden and mysterious ways in some matters. But in matters of everyday business, the Lord usually has a well-beaten path for us to follow. We need to be taught these paths. It will not do for the Lord to just tell us what they are. He has done that many times. And as many times, we have stubbornly chosen to go our own way. The Lord is able by His chastising hand to teach His children to follow Him and walk the paths He has chosen.

Truth touches every area of our lives. It is vital, because absolute truth is always hidden in the midst of a mountain of lies, camouflaged by the Enemy with half-truths and deceptions. The Lord is our Good Shepherd. Only He can unerringly lead us through such confusion. We cannot know truth apart from Him for He is the repository of all truth. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

For all these we wait upon God. He is our salvation, and for these vital issues of life only He can suffice.

-C.M.